



## U.S. Department of Justice

## Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

BY LIAISON

OS REGISTRY

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DATE: May 12, 1987

TO:  Chairman  
 Personnel Security Committee  
 Intelligence Group/Countermeasures (P)  
 Central Intelligence Agency

STAT

FROM: *[Signature]*  
 Gary L. Stoops  
 Security Programs Manager, FBI

SUBJECT: Interagency Group/Countermeasures (P)  
 Personnel Security Committee

Pursuant to the Personnel Security Committee meeting of January, 21, 1987, the FBI was requested to take the lead to determine the feasibility of rapid dissemination of public record criminal justice information to interested agencies, when it impacts on the continued eligibility for the maintenance of a security clearance by a Federal employee or Government contractor. The major focus of this matter concerns the notification to interested parties of the arrest of an individual holding a security clearance.

The current and contemplated automated FBI fingerprint procedures will not provide for such notification. The exceptions to this notification policy involve all FBI and Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) employees and those Secret Service personnel currently assigned to the Presidential detail. Original prints of these employees are maintained in the criminal print files, thus alerting these agencies should a "hit" result from the submission of matching arrest prints.

All fingerprint submissions made pursuant to a National Agency Check are either returned to the originator or maintained in the Civil Print Section of the Identification Division, thereby negating a "hit" capability concerning a criminal print submission check.

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Strict adherence to this policy of selective retention in the criminal print files of those category of persons identified above is dictated by budgetary concerns, due to the sheer magnitude of the numbers involved. For example, in Fiscal Year 1986, the Office of Personnel Management submitted 282,000 fingerprint forms to be searched. The added cost of filing and storing these prints is prohibitive and the prints are, therefore, returned to the originators.

The same budgetary constraints prohibit the FBI from monitoring the arrest information of individuals issued a security clearance under the FBI Industrial Security Program and Joint Task Forces.

Several viable options may be available to the Intelligence Community to facilitate the proposed rapid exchange of public record criminal justice information:

I. FINGERPRINT MATTERS:

- A. CONTRACTS: Interested agencies could contract to have their applicants fingerprinted and the prints classified under FBI guidelines. Costs incurred by the FBI in the searching, filing, and maintenance of the prints in the criminal print files would be charged to the requesting agency. This option offers the most effective and efficient way of rapid dissemination of arrest information.
- B. TECHNOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE: Computer tapes can be programmed with the names and other identifiers (i.e., Date of Birth or Social Security Account Number) plus the primary fingerprint classification of the applicants. The tape can be run against the FBI master tapes, which may kick out several "possible hits." If a "possible" is registered, the requesting agency forwards the fingerprint form to the FBI for a positive identification and it is then returned to the originator. Costs of searching would be charged to the requesting agency.
- C. FIVE YEAR UPDATES: This procedure, already in place, allows for a periodic check of an employee's fingerprints against the FBI criminal print file in conjunction with the "five-year update" of an employee's Secret/Top Secret clearance or SCI access. This middle ground approach is cost effective, and does weed out those individuals with a clearance who have been arrested and their employers not notified. The five-year lag time must be weighed against the potential for damage to

national security created by the particular group being considered for this type of monitoring.

D. BUDGET ENHANCEMENTS:

1. FBI

a. The FBI will assess its immediate needs in monitoring those individuals granted security clearances under the FBI Industrial Security Program and Joint Task Forces. These matters will be prioritized and current resources redirected and/or budget enhancements sought.

2. OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES: Similar consideration as above.

II. INTERSTATE IDENTIFICATION INDEX:

This Index contains voluminous criminal history information accessible by any entity with an NCIC terminal. This information is queried by name and other identifiers and provides immediate response. Variations in the name or the use of an alias will circumvent the system. To ensure absolute accuracy if a name check "hit" is registered, the individual's prints must be searched against the FBI criminal fingerprint files.

The cost of classifying, searching, filing, and maintenance of a set of prints is approximately fifteen dollars. The actual costs of the above options can be estimated and will vary, depending on the particular agency policy to monitor just some or all levels of persons with security clearances.

Input is requested from all agency member representatives on the Personnel Security Committee as to which is the most viable option they can support for their department or agency. Once this data is obtained, the FBI Security Programs Manager will present this matter to the appropriate officials for consideration and decision.